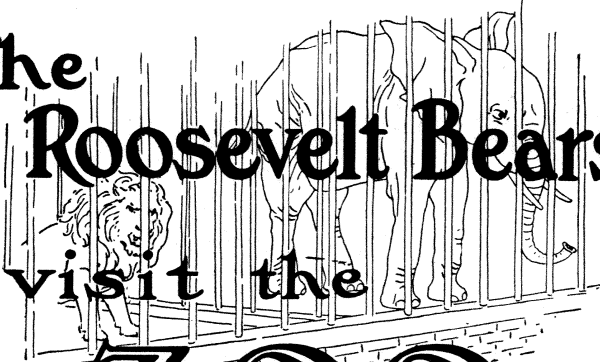


The
Roosevelt Bears
visit the
ZOO



The Roosevelt Bears visit the ZOO

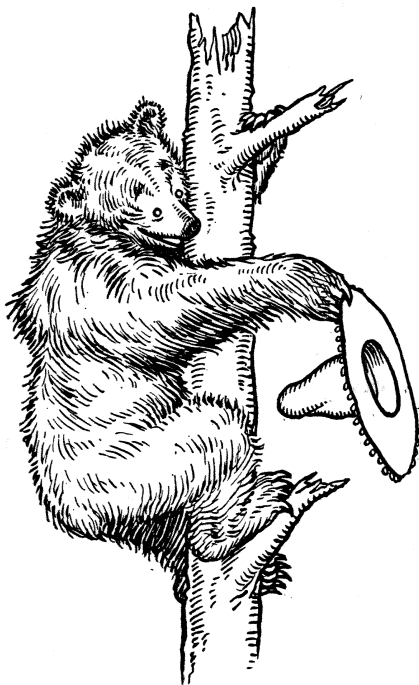
An illustration showing a lion and an elephant behind vertical bars, representing the zoo environment.

Said TEDDY-G, "The thing to do,"

As they reached the high fence round the Zoo,
In the early morning, about half-past two,
"Is to get in there with this load of cake
Before the keepers are wide awake."

"You climb the fence," said TEDDY-B,
"And throw this rope back here to me,
And pull up the baskets one by one

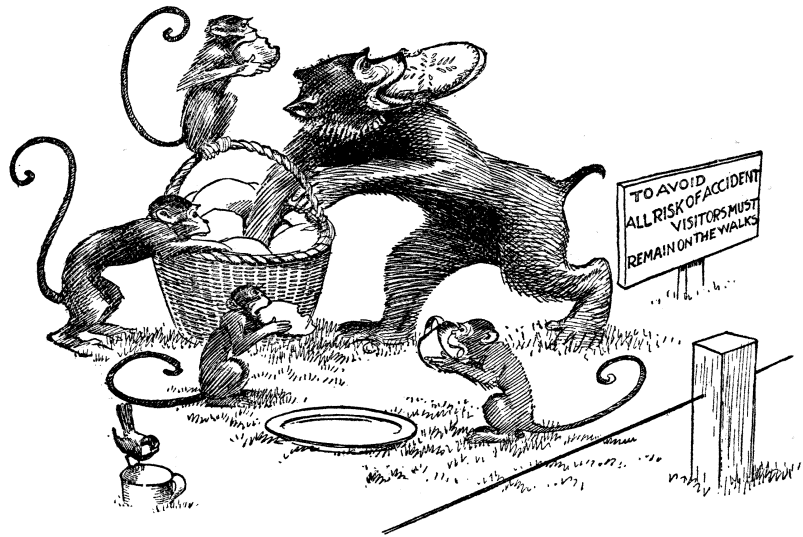
And we'll land in there a good-sized ton
Of the finest cake that was ever made,
And strawberry tarts and lemonade
And cherry pie and sugar sticks
And red ice cream in good-sized bricks
And peanut candy and chocolate eclairs
And other things quite new to bears."



"Don't waste your time in telling me;
I bought these things," said TEDDY-G;
And up he climbed, with business sense,
A tree which grew beside the fence,



And out a limb and dropped below
And called out, "All right; I'm in; let go."
And up went baskets two by two
Over the fence into the Zoo;



And before the day began to break
The Bears had camped with their load of cake
On a grassy knoll where they couldn't hide
And with dens and pens on every side.
"We're in here now," said TEDDY-B;
"What do you say we do?" said he.
"Let's feed the animals," said TEDDY-G;
"I move we let out two or three
And bring them here and feed them cake
And see just how our show will take;
And if they are pleased, why we'll go round
And let loose everything on the ground."
To the elephant house the two Bears went
And stirred up the biggest elephant,
And marched him over to their cake
Before he had time to get half awake.
"You mind these things," said TEDDY-G,
"Our breakfast hour is half-past three.
If you are good you can have a snack
To keep you chewing till we come back."
And they gave old Bolivar (that was his name)
Some things to eat till back they came.



Copyright, 1907, by Edward Stern & Co., Inc.

“‘You mind these things,’ said TEDDY-G,
‘Our breakfast hour is half-past three.’”

Then off they went to the monkey cage
Where monkeys of every size and age
Were using hands and feet and lungs
And saying good-morning in a thousand tongues.

TEDDY-B made them promise they'd be good
(At least that's what he understood)
If he'd open the cage and let them out
And give them an hour to run about.

"We have," said he, "some pie and cake
Which TEDDY-G will undertake
To serve out free in an hour or two
To every animal in the Zoo.



We'll give you as much as
you deserve
If you'll act as waiters and
help us serve."
The monkeys grinned
from ear to ear
And winked at each other
a little queer,
And nodded their heads
and seemed to say
That the two Bears' orders
they'd obey.

The cage was opened and
the crowd went out,
Little and big, with laugh
and shout,
Upsetting each other
across the green,
The funniest bunch that
was ever seen.

The Bears went
then to the
beaver pond

And told the
beavers if they
were fond

Of good ice
cream served
by baboons

To bring on their
tails to use for
spoons.

They saw some foxes red and gray
And asked them to dine with them
that day.
The wolves looked hungry and said
they'd see
That all left over was given them
free.



The rhinoceros couldn't accept their treat;
He had some rheumatics in his feet.
But in a cage near-by a kangaroo
Jumped twenty feet when they let him through.



An ostrich standing six feet high
Called out to the Bears as they went by
To hurry around with a piece of pie.

Two mountain goats with
curling horn
Said the mountain crest where
they were born,

Their father rented just for
thanks
To the Roosevelt Bears to play
their pranks,

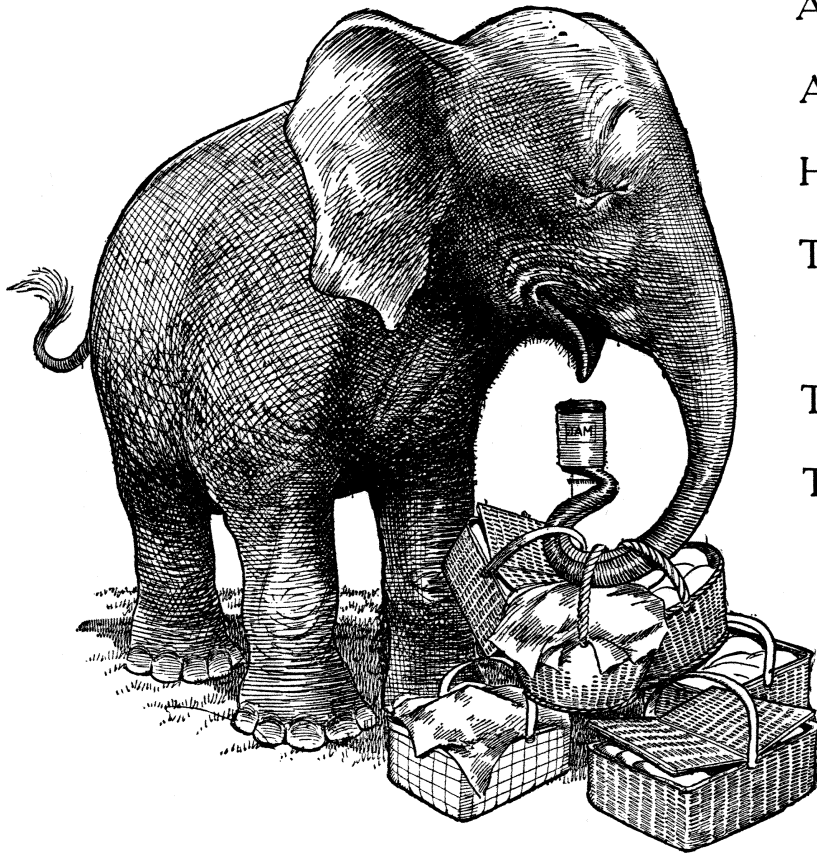
And this they thought was
cause indeed
Why they should be asked to
the morning feed.

A hedgehog and a porcupine
Were the next pair asked by
the Bears to dine,
Then a dromedary chewing
his cud
Said he wouldn't budge from
where he stood,

But if they'd bring him a piece
of cake
He'd see if he liked their kind
of bake.



From there they went to the animals' cage
Where they found the tigers in a rage
And the lions roaring to beat the band
In language the Bears didn't understand.



A chimpanzee came
near to see
And he made a face at
TEDDY-G.
He was eating pie and
said he feared
That their basket lunch
had disappeared.

The Bears took warning
and started back
To find ten keepers on
their track,
And animals both
big and small
Running wild on
every mall,
And Bolivar with his
trumpet loud
Calling for help to
stop the crowd.

The monkeys had gone in a solid bunch
And captured the whole of the picnic lunch,
And out on limbs and high up on poles,
And on top of roofs and into holes,
And every monkey with cake or jam,
Or pie or tart or sandwich ham,
Or nuts or lemonade or cheese;
And Bolivar shaking poles and trees,
And hungry wolves and the kangaroo,
And mountain goats and a deer or two
Running wild from place to place,
Helping on the monkey chase.



"The monkeys had gone in a solid bunch and captured the whole of the picnic lunch."

'Twas noon that day when keepers ten
And a police brigade of fifty men,
And a hundred boys and firemen six
Got the monkey troupe to stop their tricks.

The Bears looked on throughout the show
And helped on the fun by laughing so
For TEDDY-G, since he was a cub,
Or at Bunker Hill down in the Hub,
Said that making fun seemed to be his forte
And that he never had such lively sport.

But the keeper made him change his laugh
When he locked them up with a big giraffe
And told them to stay and pay a fine
When the police court met next day at nine.

